

**BUDGET ADVISORY COMMITTEE**  
**AUGUST 21, 2003**

**1. ROLL CALL**

The meeting was called to order by Chair Dr. Kerry Waldee at 5:36 p.m. Committee members present were Robert Kellner, Dan Barr, Bob Preziosi and Scott Spages. Also present was Budget & Finance Director Bill Underwood.

**2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

**3. OLD BUSINESS**

- 3.1 FY 2004 Operating Budget.** Bill Underwood asked for the Members' input on the Fire assessment. He stated that he has received several negative comments regarding the increase. He stated that Council had requested that the BAC attempt to eliminate \$850,000 from the budget so that they would not have to raise the Fire fee the full amount. Dan Barr suggested that they go to each department and request a 2% decrease from each department's budget.

Scott Spages made reference to a County rate schedule and stated that Chief DiPetrillo's argument was that relative to the rest of the county fees, the Town of Davie was among the lowest. Scott suggested that the Town should try and put more of the economic burden on the businesses rather than residential homes. Dan Barr felt that the additional burden should not be put on the small business owner. Scott Spages stated that the Chief explained that the larger apparatus is needed for the large businesses that are not needed for residential homes. He stated that he felt the Town was moving in the right direction as far as the Fire Department expanding rather than being taken over by the County. Dr. Waldee stated that he did not feel the additional burden should be put on the small business owner. He stated that in the Budget Workshop, resident Cindy Osbourne, a small business owner in downtown Davie, spoke of the increase in Fire fees in the last several years. She told Council that if the Town continued to put the burden on the small business owners, she felt they would leave Davie.

Kerry stated that with the addition of three new Fire stations, along with equipment and personnel, he was in favor of the full increase of 97%. Bob Preziosi agreed and stated that the Town should also find a way so that it is more equitably distributed between residential and commercial.

Scott Spages proposed that the BAC recommend to Council not to raise single family value for this fiscal year greater than 40%; for non-residential, 1,999 square feet and below, not greater than 30%; for 2,000-4,999, 40% or less; 5,000-9,999, 50% or less; 10,000-29,999, 60% or less; and 30,000-49,999, less than 70%. He stated this would take the burden off the single families and smaller businesses.

Bob Preziosi made a motion, seconded by Dan Barr, that the percentages of increase be rolled back by taking the Consultant's formula and applying it to the \$850,000 less

in revenue to determine what the percentage in dollar amounts will be that residences and commercial entities will have to pay relating to Fire Rescue only.

In a roll call vote, the vote was as follows: Bob Preziosi - yes; Dan Barr – yes; Kerry Waldee – yes; Scott Spages – no. **(Motion carried 3-2)**

Kerry questioned Bob Preziosi regarding the \$3 million from the Police Trust Fund. Bob stated that to continue to count on that as a revenue source, will become fiscally unsound. Bob Preziosi questioned the \$95,000 for the Police Athletic League.

Dan Barr made a motion, seconded by Bob Kellner, that charitable requests be ceased.

Kerry opened the floor to discussion.

Dan Barr stipulated that all charitable requests were worthwhile causes, but he did not feel it was the Town's position to fund them.

In a roll call vote, the vote was as follows: Scott Spages – yes; Bob Kellner – yes; Kerry Waldee – yes; Dan Barr – yes; Bob Preziosi - no. **(Motion carried 4-1)**  
Motion passes to recommend eliminating the appropriations.

Kerry stated that Councilmember Paul was concerned with the utility internal charges of every department and felt there was a large increase in that category. He stated that she requested additional documentation.

Dan Barr made a motion, seconded by Scott Spages that Council focus on the departments with the largest increases, i.e., Human Resources, Town Clerk, Developmental Services, Parks and Recreation, to cut and/or find the \$600,000 or 5% of their combined budget.

In a roll call vote, the vote was as follows: Scott Spages – yes; Bob Kellner – yes; Kerry Waldee – yes; Dan Barr – yes; Bob Preziosi - no. **(Motion carried 4-1)**

**3.2 Space Needs Study.**

No discussion was held.

**4. NEW BUSINESS**

**5. COMMENTS AND/OR SUGGESTIONS**

**6. ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business, a motion was made by Scott Spages, and seconded by Dan Barr to adjourn the meeting. **(Motion passed 5-0)**. The meeting was adjourned at 7:20 p.m.

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Approved

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Chair/Committee Member